

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for sensing an object and for outputting ascertained object data, comprising:

at least one object-detection device;

a connector element for connection to a data bus; and

an arrangement configured to send, via the connector element, a fixed, predetermined number of data packets provided for transmitting measurement data up to a maximum possible number of detected objects, wherein the arrangement includes:

an arrangement configured to insert current measurement data of the detected objects into the fixed, predetermined number of data packets;

an arrangement configured to select and mark a most relevant object; and

an arrangement configured to output the data packets to the data bus via the connector element.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 15, wherein:

the measurement data of the object selected as the most relevant object are marked by one of a flag and inputting object data in a predetermined data packet.

18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 15, wherein:

the apparatus is at least one of a transmitting and receiving device for radar radiation, a transmitting and receiving device for lidar radiation, and a receiving device for an image processing system.

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 15, wherein the apparatus is used in a motor vehicle in a device for adaptive cruise control along the lines of a constant-distance control and a constant-speed control.

22. (Previously Presented) A method for transmitting measurement data between an object-detection device and an evaluation device, comprising:

- causing the evaluation device to send at least one data packet to the object-detection device;
- causing the object-detection device to insert current measurement data of a detected object into a fixed, predetermined number of data packets;
- marking objects selected as the most relevant objects and entering the marked objects into the fixed, predetermined number of data packets; and
- outputting the data packets to a data bus via a connector element to the data bus.

23. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 22, wherein the data packets are provided for measurement data of a constant, predetermined number of detected objects.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 22, wherein:

- the marking includes at least one of using a flag and inputting object data at a specified position of the data packet.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 22, wherein the object-detection device inserts information into the data packet as to whether the evaluation device already identified the particular object as relevant in a preceding data exchange cycle.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 22, wherein the data packets contain object identifiers.

27. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 22, further comprising:

specifying at least one of a plurality of distance limits and a plurality of velocity limits, wherein:

the object-detection device only takes into account at least one of the detected objects whose distance to the object-detection device lies within the distance limits and the detected objects whose relative velocity in relation to the object-detection device lies within the velocity limits.

28. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 22, wherein the data packets are designed for a constant, predetermined number of objects and provide measurement data for 8, 16, or 32 objects.